

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the current paper copy of the sequence listing, and the computer readable form, with the attached.

IN THE CLAIMS

Cancel claims 175, 177, 178 and 180 without prejudice.

Amend claim 173 and add claim 182 as follows:

E2
Claim 173 (twice amended): An isolated, MAGE-1 tumor rejection antigen precursor protein, said protein comprising the amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO: 26.

E3
Claim 182: Composition comprising the isolated, tumor rejection antigen precursor protein of claim 176, and a pharmaceutically appropriate ingredient.

REMARKS

The amendments to the claims set forth supra were discussed, and agreed to in a telephone interview, a portion of which took place on December 22, 1998. Richard Schwartz, Christina Chan, and Thomas Cunningham participated in the interview, together with the undersigned. The claim amendments presented supra were agreed to, although the Examiner Interview Summary Sheet does not so state.

The interview stretched over approximately 6 hours, when the interviews of December 18 (Ms. Chan and Mr. Cunningham), December 21, and 22 (Ms. Chan, Mr. Schwartz and Mr. Cunningham) are combined. Given the amount of time expended on the interviews, the agreement that was reached, and the omission of same in the Examiner Interview Statement, applicants insist that, if anything other than a "clean" allowance is not forthcoming, that all three of the listed USPTO

personnel sign the documents. This would include any "Comments" on the allowance, Examiner Statement of Reasons for Allowance, and so forth.

It was agreed that the restrictions requirement was confusing, that applicants agreed to elect MAGE-1, and that there was no need to respond to the restrictions requirement. In other words, "2A" of the December 8 action was in error.

It was also agreed that applicants would require the claims to be drawn to MAGE-1. As a result, Claim 173 has been amended. Claims have been cancelled which are drawn to non-MAGE-1 species.

The language of claim 173 is such that it covers molecules which contain a "fingerprint" of MAGE-1, which is the peptide of SEQ ID NO: 26. The specification teaches that MAGE-1 is processed to a tumor rejection antigen, or "TRA," which has the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 26. This TRA is presented by HLA-A1 molecules.

This is NOT to say that SEQ ID NO: 26 is the only TRA presented by the claimed molecules. Indeed, MAGE-1 is processed to many TRAs, of which SEQ ID NO: 26 was merely the first to be recognized.

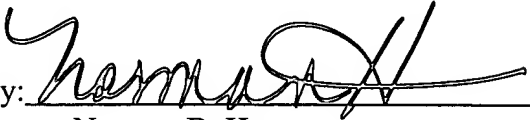
It was also agreed that the new matter rejection as set forth in the office action of September 1 was not to be sustained.

No other issues are presented. This application should properly now proceed to allowance.

A holding to that end is urged. The comments supra must be noted.

Respectfully submitted,

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